

**Governor's Office of Homeland Security
and Emergency Preparedness**
State of Louisiana

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GOVERNOR



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GOHSEP Director Waskom Named Recovery Coordinator for Flood Event

BATON ROUGE (April 22, 2016) – Governor John Bel Edwards has named James Waskom, Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), as the State Disaster Recovery Coordinator in response to the flooding and severe storms that started March 8th. Director Waskom will be responsible for implementing the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF). In response, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has named Wayne Rickard as the Federal Disaster Recovery Coordinator.

The NDRF was designed to ensure coordination and recovery planning at all levels of government before a disaster, while establishing structure, leadership roles and recovery planning after an event. The focus is on how best to restore, redevelop and revitalize communities impacted by the disaster and to build capacity for resilience. "Recovery from this flood event will be a challenge," said GOHSEP Director James Waskom. "Establishing the NDRF plan will help the state meet that challenge and prepare for future events. As we continue to coordinate assistance for flood victims, it is important to realize a man-made or weather related emergency can happen at any moment in Louisiana. We are only weeks away from the start of the 2016 hurricane season. Having these standards in place will make ongoing recovery efforts more efficient and make the state more resilient."

The NDRF underscores the importance of local, state and tribal leadership and participation of community members and organizations in decision making. This results in priorities set by the people who live and work in affected communities. After communities identify their priorities for recovery, larger government agencies get involved. By pooling their talent and resources, agencies at the state and federal levels

April 22, 2016

may be able to find alternative pathways to secure technical assistance and funding for communities and parishes.

Recovery Support Functions

The NDRF six recovery support functions led by designated federal coordinating agencies:

- Community Planning and Capacity Building - FEMA
- Economic - U.S. Department of Commerce - Economic Development Administration
- Health and Social Services - U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Housing - U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Infrastructure Systems - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Natural and Cultural Resources - U.S. Department of Interior

These agencies work with their state counterparts and the private sector to find alternative solutions when communities need expertise and funding they cannot get through traditional means.

You can receive emergency alerts on most smartphones and tablets by downloading the new Alert FM App. It is free for basic service. You can also download the Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Guide and find other information at www.getagameplan.org.

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